

Youth Empowerment and Urban Studies (YES)

Guidance Sheet – 2020-2021 (18 semester hours)

The YES Minor is designed to provide all students with an interdisciplinary, critical understanding of the role youth can play in social change in an urban environment. As a multidisciplinary minor with a strong focus on experiential learning grounded in theory and research, it provides students with greater skills and knowledge in order to be effective professionals in an urban environment, and core courses and faculty who teach them take a strength-based approach to urban youth, families and communities. **This minor requires one extended format course (YES 301), that does not end until June. This minor is open to all majors.**

I. Required: 9 Credits

- YES 250 *Introduction to Youth and Urban Community Work*: Urban Professional Workshop* _____ 3 ← Now offered Fall & Spring
- YES 300 *Youth Empowerment and the Urban Context** _____ 3 ← Offered each Spring, field in Philly
- YES 301 *Seminar in Youth-Led Media and Inquiry** _____ 3 ← Offered each Spring (extended format, Philly and other fieldwork)

*YES 300 and 301 take place in part on WCU’s campus and in part in the City of Philadelphia. Prerequisites for YES 300/301: All clearances AND YES 250 or two focused electives (below) or permission of instructor.

II. Focused Electives: Choose ONE course from EACH of three categories. 9 Credits

Urban Contexts and Communities—(choose ONE) 3 credits

- GEO 204 Introduction to Urban Studies
- ECO 350 Urban Economics
- GEO 312 Urban Geography
- ANT 347 Culture of Cities
- SOC 342 Urban Sociology
- PSC 304 Urban Politics
- LIT 370 Urbanism and Modern Imagination
- HIS 364 U.S. Urban History
- GEO 200 Global Cities
- RUX 110 Introduction to Urban Community Change

Youth and Social Systems—(choose ONE): 3 credits

- HIS 444 History of American Education
- EDF 300 Democracy and Education
- HON 312 Educational Systems and Social Influence
- HON 322 Leadership with ELLs in the Classroom and Community
- EDF 255 Evolution of Schooling in the U.S.
- WRH 305 Images of School in Film
- SOC 345 Sociology of Education
- SWO 423 Child Welfare Practice and Policy
- SWO 332 Social Welfare Policies and Services
- ENG 215 Views on Literacy
- CRJ 310 Juvenile Justice Administration
- HEA 440 School Health Programs
- EDR 200 Literacy, Diversity, & Equity in K-12 Classrooms
- MDC 325 Strategic Social Media

Many majors already require field-based coursework, community work or internships in the field. This can be “double-dipped.”

Empowerment Work in Diverse Communities. Any additional course, housed in any College or Department, which integrates service learning/community-engaged learning/community-engaged research/field placement in urban settings or with diverse populations; courses should take critical and strength-based approaches to issues addressed. Courses and placements that qualify will be approved by the Coordinator of the program by review of syllabi. Students and faculty should contact the YES Coordinator about particular courses. 3 credits

Total Credits 18